



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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23rd Annual Governor's Conference on Minority Business Development

Madison: The 23rd annual Governor's Conference on Minority Business Development: Marketplace 2004 will be held September 21st and 22nd at the Ho-Chunk Casino Hotel & Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells. This conference offers an excellent opportunity for minority owned businesses to meet customers and link up with potential financial partners."

The conference will include an awards dinner on September 21st and business workshops, panel discussions, networking forums, and a trade fair on September 22nd. Wisconsin SBA District Director, Eric Ness will be presenting the SBA Wisconsin Minority Person of the Year and Minority Advocate of the Year awards to this year's winners. Featured speakers include Governor Jim Doyle (invited) and Ron Langston, Director of the US Department of Minority Business Development Agency. Lenders, venture capitalists and other service providers will also be on hand to provide assistance on an as-needed basis.

Minority-owned businesses seeking one-on-one meetings with prospective customers should contact Commerce at 608/267-9550 or 414/289-6767.

Registration fees are as follows:

Workshop and Awards Dinner on September 21	\$35 per person
Minority Business/Non-Profit/Walk-Through Participant (Includes luncheon)	\$45 per person
Corporate Participants	\$100 per person
Exhibit Booths	\$200-\$500
Conference value pack	\$165 per person

Participants can obtain more information or register online at Department of Commerce's web site @ www.commerce.state.wi.us or Wisconsin Minority Business Opportunity Committee's website @ www.wmboc.org. For additional questions, call 608/267-9550 or 414/289-6767.

*Additional information about SBA's programs and services is available
at SBA's Web site: www.sba.gov and Wisconsin's SBA Website: www.sba.gov/wi*